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PATENT

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TC 2300 MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent
appln. of: Southco, Inc.

Serial No.: 09/900,592

Filed: July 6, 2001

For: **Electrically Operated Ratcheting
Pawl Latch**

Inventor: Eric D. Hyp

Doc. No.: 164-01

Certificate of Mail

Date of Deposit: December 18, 2001
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Mamie Dedmon

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

In the interest of full disclosure, the following items are herewith identified in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98 for consideration by the Examiner. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)

Each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. PATENTS

U.S. Patent No. 4,979,384 issued to Malesko, et al. on December 25, 1990
U.S. Patent No. 5,020,838 issued to Fukumoto on June 4, 1991
U.S. Patent No. 6,116,067 issued to Myers et al. on September 12, 2000

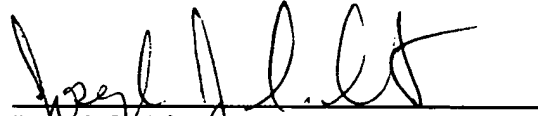
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FOREIGN PATENTS

German Patent No. DE 37 32 138 A issued to Kohler, et al. on September 30, 1986

- The relevance of this patent is that it has been cited in the European Search Report as being particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: December 18, 2001

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